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2 September 1964

(u) file  
PROCESSOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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1. Clean Room. A revised room layout was prepared by [ ] and it looks much better than the original one. Chemical handling and work flow is improved and personnel access is improved. It appears that [ ] new layout eliminates the need for the additional air shower which is a [ ] saving. [ ] had provided prints to go to George, and [ ] supposedly sent them.

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[ ] advised that the new layout would not cause any change in price and delivery on the clean room. [ ] is presently working on the modules. The air conditioning will be up on the roof of the [ ] building and the [ ] subcontractor will start the installation work shortly.

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The [ ] architect started work August 24 on his drawings. He will be primarily concerned with conforming to building codes, obtaining permits, and fire and safety provisions.

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The clean room floor is raised about 2 feet above the concrete building floor. The building floor is a 3-5/8 in. thick concrete slab and the raised clean room floor will be supported by steel posts and girders. The processor, however, will be supported on a special concrete bed since [ ] doesn't think the building floor will take the loading. This is a very inflexible situation and once the processor is located it can't be moved without tearing up the whole floor and repouring concrete. It seems to me they should at least provide footings for two processors, especially if there is the possibility of locating the SAC HTA-3A in there.

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2. Staffing. Nothing definite has been established on the research staff except that [ ] will undoubtedly head the program. [ ] is considering approaching [ ] whom he considers to be a very high calibre scientist. [ ] was one of the German Peenemunde scientists who came over after the war. I expect he probably has a current security clearance. Would there be any problem on this job?

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3. Investigation Program. The first item [ ] plans to work on is evaluation of vacuum capstan designs. The vacuum capstan on the ABD-4 drier gave a great deal of trouble and knowledge in this area is important. It is a priority 1 item on the development objectives list. I suggested they parallel the experimental work with some theoretical and analytical work.

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A clean room is not needed for the vacuum capstan work so it can proceed immediately.

4. Deionization. [ ] has discovered a deionization process that permits them to reuse wash water and still get good archival quality. [ ] says they processed 11,600 ft. of S0278 in an HTA/JCM with one tank (90 gal) of water. The water was recirculated through a deionization tank which was about the size of an industrial oxygen bottle. The deionization chemicals can be recharged several times without replacement.

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As I remember, [ ] was at one time working toward a transportable type processor which would enable them to move into a remote area for a short-term operation and get out quickly. One of the principal stumbling blocks was the water supply and no satisfactory answer was ever found. Is this requirement still under consideration? If there is interest in this, Art will prepare a proposal.

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